



# Waste Collection Guidelines

ISSUED February 2015

We are entrusted with a beautiful hometown environment. Village Council arranges for waste collection and recycling with Waste Pro for all residents and businesses. As a community we all share in the rewards and responsibilities of living in a village that is clean and cared for. Together every individual makes a difference. The process begins with considering the end use of each product we buy and by consuming and disposing items wisely.

## **REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!**

**REDUCE:** Strongly resisting advertising is an important life skill. Buying right-size products reduces wasteful use, food spoilage, over-eating and stress. When fewer items crowd a home, it's easier to clean, to make the most of the resources we already have, and to assemble nutritious meals quickly. Storing fewer items simplifies cabinets and closets. It's easier to find and enjoy what you really need and to involve our children as well to save family time and money. "Live simply so others may simply live."

**REUSE:** Durable items often have more than one life; many sacks, gift boxes, outgrown clothing, and other items can be reused. Composting becomes easier and more popular and provides an economical source of fertile garden soil.

**Lake Park HOA sponsors Spring and Fall Garage Sales April 18 and October 17.** From 7am to 1pm our streets are busy with shoppers looking for bargains. Nearby consignment sales and shops offer other profitable ways to sell gently-used bikes, toys, clothing, furniture and household items.

**Door-to-door pickups** can be conveniently arranged with Goodwill, Salvation Army, AmVets, (the 'pink bag' pickups), Kidney Foundation, etc. and give you donation receipts for tax purposes. Libraries and used bookshops may accept extra books. Dry cleaners take clothes hangers. Pharmacies will accept and safely dispose of outdated meds and used syringes. Vehicle dealers and furniture or appliance vendors often accept trade-ins or will arrange pick-up of old items you are replacing. Grocery stores provide bins to return used plastic bags.

**RECYCLE:** Pre-washing is not required, but it is more sanitary and helps deter critters and odors. *Never bag recyclables in plastic!* Place them loosely in the open Recycle Bin. **ITEMS ACCEPTABLE FOR OUR RECYCLE PICKUP:**



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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Glass (any color)</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Metal food containers</b>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>All plastic containers</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Magazines and catalogs</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Newspapers (tie with string and put on top or tuck in a paper sack)</b> |  |

**GETTING STARTED:** If your new home or business is in Lake Park, call Waste Pro (704) 821-7578 to start service. Call Waste Pro to request removal of **moving supplies**. Break boxes down flat. **Lake Park pickup day for all trash and recyclables is Thursday.** Only Town Center commercial pickup is on Mondays and Thursdays to meet health department requirements for businesses serving the public.



**PLACEMENT & TIMING:** Place your Rolling Cart at least 3 feet from all objects including mailboxes, flowerbeds, Recycle Bin, and extra trash. This allows the crew to use automated equipment and complete the entire village on the same day every week. Business and Condominium neighbors must have all waste in the dumpster by 7:00am. Condominium neighbors must place Recycle Bins in their designated area by 7:00 am. All other residents must place trash and recycling at their lot curb by 7:00 am. 1 Rolling Cart and 1 Recycle Bin is issued per lot.

**EXTRA TRASH:** *To protect the environment, residents are urged to generate less trash and to limit their discards to what the regulation cart and bin can hold. Larger families may contact Waste Pro for an additional cart with a fee of \$10 a month. Overloaded containers (over 40 lbs) are a serious safety hazard to our service crews.*

CLEAR Lawn & Leaf bags are available at supermarkets and hardware stores and are ideal for extra trash, lawn clippings and leaves. Up to 20 **CLEAR** bags of yard debris may be picked up per house most weeks. All yard debris (clippings only, NO DIRT) must be either **CLEAR**-bagged or tie-bundled. No bag or bundle should weigh more than 40 lbs. **Branches can be no more than 4 inches in diameter, less than 36 inches long and under 40 lbs. per bundle.**

Bulk items (Furniture) will be picked up the **second Thursday** of each month. White Goods (Appliances) will be picked up every Thursday.



**SEPARATE PICKUPS:** Recyclables and side items are picked up the same day as your ordinary trash. Separate trucks pick up recyclables, extra bags, yard debris, white goods and Christmas trees. Each truck may arrive at different times throughout the pickup day. Leave Rolling Carts at the curb until all containers are emptied. Recycle Bins and bagged items may be overlooked if a Rolling Cart is put away too early. If a full container is missed, but it was curbed by 7am, call Waste Pro (704) 821-7578.

**WHEN YOUR STREET IS FINISHED:** Always bring emptied Rolling Carts and Recycle Bins **INSIDE<sup>1</sup>** on Thursday evening. One-day pickup is arranged to

<sup>1</sup> Storage in your garage or in an HOA-approved shed or fence enclosure is acceptable on most properties. An occasional rinse (use dishwater or shower water, adding a little bleach) or swish with a broom to reduce odor and bacteria, even during a drought. Keep carts covered to deter pest entry.

keep streets and alleys clutter-free the rest of the week. Neighbors often will respond to a request for temporary aid when a need arises, but if no one in a household can physically handle the issued containers, residents may prefer to supply a smaller cart in a more manageable size. Call Waste Pro to remove their cart for you and to collect from your cart. If mobility is strictly limited, alert the village clerk (704)882-8657. Your residence may qualify for Waste Pro's personal assistance program.

**ROLLING RESIDENTIAL CARTS & COMMERCIAL DUMPSTERS:** Some ordinary discards do not meet current service recycle criteria. Bag all non-recyclables in securely closed clear trash bags to go in the carts or dumpsters. Non-recyclables include bubble wrap, junk mail, pizza and take-out food boxes and styrofoam packing. Bag all these for the cart or dumpster. CAUTION: ALWAYS DOUBLE WRAP styrofoam 'peanuts', shredded paper, disposable diapers, sharp items (like broken dishes, light bulbs) for safer handling ~ and put in the carts or dumpsters.

**WASTE COLLECTION NO-NO'S:** Certain items are NEVER acceptable for disposal in Rolling Carts, Recycle Bins, clear trash bags, nor in commercial dumpsters:

\* **NO LIQUIDS**, not even if it is inside a closed bottle or can. Containers of cooking oil, food liquids, paints, bleach or cleaners, varnish, fuel, motor oil, acid, etc. will burst in the crusher (the compactor truck), and spill on the truck and street. This damages the truck seals and stains the pavement. Cleanup is resident responsibility.



**EXCEPTION:** *Only paint that has dried in the can may be put to the curb but it must be open to view and set **OUTSIDE** the cart.* Up to an inch of latex paint can be dried in the can if left open in a dry undisturbed place, until it becomes a dry solid. Kitty litter poured into a partial can of oil-based paint; left open in a safe place for 4 days (or more, depending on the quantity of paint) should become a dry solid before putting it out for pickup. A granular hardener (like Waste Away® packets from Lowe's) can harden a half-full gallon can of latex paint (to a solid gel) in minutes. Better yet, recycle it: paint the inside of a shed or a closet, give the wall another coat, or offer to someone who can use it.

**NO TIRES.**



**NO BATTERIES OF ANY TYPE.**



**NO GARDEN DIRT or CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS\*** Residents must make private arrangements to haul away any excavated dirt, old carpeting, renovation debris or building materials.

**NO HAZARDOUS or TOXIC MATERIALS\*** No chemicals including pesticides or turpentine, no biomedical items, no explosives (batteries, fireworks, gunpowder or firearms).

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\* **Alternative Disposal Sites:** Union County has satellite collection sites open to the public that accept items for free or at remarkably nominal charges. Sun Valley High School is the nearest satellite site. The Union County Landfill, 2125 Austin Chaney Road is a 20-minute drive east via Unionville Indian Trail Road. For information on what our county landfill accepts, call (704) 296-4210, the Monroe Public Works office. See: <http://www.co.union.nc.us/PropertyServices/PublicWorks/tabid/357/Default.aspx> for landfill site maps

**Violations:** Waste Pro reports violations to the village clerk or council and notices go to residents. When trash or spills mark the street, Waste Pro may attempt to clean (if time permits) *but it is that resident's responsibility to clean up spills or scattered items and keep our neighborhoods pleasant.*

**YARD DEBRIS:** Spring and fall clean up produces lots of plant material. Leaves and lawn clippings may be clear-bagged and set outside the Rolling Cart. The weight limit is 40 lbs. per bag. Up to 20 bags may be put to the curb on the same pickup day. Shrub clippings and tree branches must be no more than 4" in diameter, cut to 3' or less in length and tied in bundles (up to 40 lbs. each) for efficient handling by the Waste Pro crew. Waste Pro will pick up a whole Christmas tree if all decorations are removed and the tree is placed outside the Rolling Cart or dumpster.



**CARDBOARD CARTONS:** Cartons placed in the Rolling Cart are best flattened and inserted vertically (standing on end). Flattened cartons placed horizontally in the cart tend to 'cork' the cart; they block all the contents from falling into the collection truck compactor. Cart contents must be tightly bagged to tumble easily into the truck.



**GOOD NEIGHBORS:** Lake Park homes and walks are designed to make it easy to look out for one another. A gust of wind or a thoughtless drop makes litter especially likely on pickup day. Walkers are encouraged to carry a small grocery bag in their pocket; burn a few extra calories picking up occasional litter. So can those of us who walk our pets, or who spot any debris as we go to our cars. Thoughtful 2-second pickups are another way we care for our unique village between visits of our landscaping and waste collection crews. **Our Parks Ordinance requires owners to pick up after pets.** CAUTION: Never pick up anything sharp or unwieldy without glove protection or help.

**WHO TO CALL:** Call 704-821-7578 if you have any questions regarding Waste Pro's waste collection service. They also have a website at [www.wasteprousa.com](http://www.wasteprousa.com). Call Monroe Public Works (704) 296-4210 for answers about the satellite recycling sites or the county landfill site. Village landscaping or tax questions: 704-882-VOLP (8657).

**WHO TO PAY:** Your village property tax pays for the village waste collection service. Union County charges separately for individual drop off of other recyclables or landfill items. Some items are free, but call first to see if your item requires a small fee.

**PROBLEM PET:** When a pet dog or cat has a temperament or reached an age or infirmity that demands care beyond an owner's capability, wise owners can turn to a trusted veterinarian to put the animal down humanely. The Monroe Animal Control Shelter (704) 282-4700, will also provide this service at no charge. As a holding center for dogs and cats waiting for a new home, the Shelter may appreciate a donation to help support their care of adoptable pets.